



Pittsburgh Land Bank [PLB] Minutes

July 9, 2021

Convene:

The Chair called meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Greg Miller called the Roll. Members Present: Rev. Ricky Burgess; Dr. Jamil Bey; Doug Anderson; Senator Fontana; Councilwoman Kail-Smith; Wanda Wilson

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes:

◇ Motion to approve the June 2021 Board meeting minutes [**Fontana/Bey**] Passed unanimously

Chairman's Report:

Rev. Ricky Burgess reported on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the Pittsburgh Land Bank. Council leadership, which includes Councilwoman Kail-Smith, Councilman Lavelle, and Rev. Ricky Burgess, worked with the Mayor who submitted a spending plan to Council on how ARPA dollars should be spent. An emphasis was placed on equity and returning properties to their rightful use especially for low- to moderate-income home ownership and housing. There is a line item for the Land Bank for \$10 million; it has not yet been approved. This money would fully operationalize the Land Bank and is intended to be spent over the next three years, primarily as leverage money and on splash projects.

Executive's Report:

- 243 Meadow Street
 - Outside Counsel is actively working on title bringdown of the title search report.
 - Once this information is received, a Complaint in Action to Quiet Title will be filed with the courts where a final judgement should be made within 120 days of the complaint filing.
- Outreach to resolve outstanding Land Bank agreements
 - PLB staff is actively engaged with the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) to create a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- PLB staff is also coordinating with the 3 Taxing Bodies (City, County, and School District) to develop working groups dedicated to amending the 3TB agreement
- This coordination will ensure the Pittsburgh Land Bank can acquire and dispose of tax-delinquent and foreclosed property throughout the City
- PULSE Fellow
 - PULSE Fellow Match Day July 12th
 - All matches will be finalized by July 19th
 - PULSE year runs from September 7, 2021 to July 29, 2022
 - The PULSE Fellow will support the PLB in the following, but not limited to:
 - Communicating with applicants and general property inquiries
 - Assisting with evaluating property requests
 - Assist with PLB property inventory
 - Plan and participate in community outreach and engagement
 - Site visit and inventory analysis of existing and potential PLB properties
 - Collaborate with PLB and URA staff on PLB workplan
 - Contribute to internal work, such as PowerPoint presentations and relevant project milestones

Finance Report:

- Greg Miller reviewed the June 2021 Expenditures

◇ Motion to approve the June 2021 Expenditures [**Fontana/Anderson**] Passed unanimously

Legislative Updates:

Senator Fontana discussed the following:

- Municipal Claims Tax Lien Law (MCTTL)
 - Final draft was submitted
 - Now referred to as Senate Bill 811
 - Council is in recess until September
 - Would like a letter from PLB leadership requesting the Senate expedite Bill 811

New Business

- [**Dr. Bey**] Inquired about reaching out to the School Board about having some representation on the Pittsburgh Land Bank board
 - [**Rev. Burgess**] Agreed and suggested we should have a formal negotiation and/or MOU with the School Board
 - [**Diamonte**] confirmed and stated she will raise this with the School Board/ Taxing Bodies at the next recurring coordination meeting. From this meeting, the PLB staff will draft a formal recommendation for the PLB Board to consider how we engage with the School Board moving forward.

Adjournment:

The Chair called for adjournment.

◇ Motion to adjourn. **[Bey/Fontana]** Passed unanimously.